a connecting waveguide for connecting said microwave supply source to said proximal end portion of each of said antenna waveguides,

wherein a plasma is produced in said processing vessel by said microwaves introduced from said antenna.

8. (Twice Amended) A microwave plasma processing system comprising: a processing vessel having a microwave transmittable top wall;

an antenna for introducing microwaves into said processing vessel, the antenna mounted on said top wall of said processing vessel and having a plurality of substantially ring-shaped and substantially concentric antenna waveguides, each of said antenna waveguides having a substantially rectangular radial cross-section and comprising a proximal end portion, a terminal end portion, and a bottom wall having a plurality of slots formed at a predetermined interval;

a microwave supply source for supplying said microwaves to said antenna; and a connecting waveguide for connecting said microwave supply source to said proximal end portion of each of said antenna waveguides,

wherein a plasma is produced in said processing vessel by said microwaves introduced from said antenna.

17. (Amended) A microwave plasma processing system as set forth in claim 15, wherein each of the antenna waveguides has a substantially rectangular radial crosssection and includes a bottom wall having a plurality of slots formed at a predetermined interval.

FINNEGAN HENDERSON FARABOW GARRETT& DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202.408.4000 Fax 202.408.4400 www.finnegan.com